

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ARA-06 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W
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P R 281445Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8554

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3253

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY

SUBJECT: MAKARIOS STOPOVER IN ATHENS APRIL 26

REF: ATHENS 3226

1. PRESIDENT MAKARIOS MADE BRIEF STOPOVER AT ATHENS AIRPORT SATURDAY AFTERNOON APRIL 26 EN ROUTE TO JAMAICA (VIA LONDON) FOR COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE. HE HAS ACCOMPANIED BY CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES AND SPEAKER CYPRIOT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CLERIDES (WHO WAS GOING ON TO VIENNA FROM LONDON). PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS MET MAKARIOS AND PARTY AT AIRPORT AND HELD BRIEF DISCUSSIONS THERE.

2. REMARKS BY MAKARIOS TO THE PRESS AT AIRPORT INCLUDED FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTEREST:(A) HE EMPHASIZED THAT MR. KISSINGER COULD HELP PROMOTE A SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM SINCE U.S. IS ONLY COUNTRY WHICH CAN EXERT "IF NOT PRESSURE, AT LEAST CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE ON TURKEY TO SHOW MORE UNDERSTANDING ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM." HOWEVER, SECRETARY SHOULD EXPECT NOTHING FROM HIM DURING
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THEIR MAY 5 MEETING SINCE HAS HAS "NOTHING TO GIVE."

(B) ARCHBISHOP STATED IT DIFFICULT TO ASSESS PROSPECTS FOR SOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM DUE TO "TURKEY'S RIGID AND UNREASONABLE ATTITUDE." HOWEVER, HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ENOUGH GOOD WILL WOULD BE DEMONSTRATED DURING VIENNA INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS SO THAT COMMON GROUND COULD BE FOUND FROM WHICH TO WORK TOWARD A JUST SOLUTION.

(C) WHEN HE IS IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 5 TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY HE WILL ALSO HAVE CONTACTS WITH OTHER OFFICIALS INCLUDING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. (D) HE WILL STOP IN ATHENS FOR A DAY OR TWO ON HIS WAY BACK TO CYPRUS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOG.

3. PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS USED OCCASION TO EXPRESS SATISFACTION THAT, IN COURSE HIS BRIEF DISCUSSION WITH THE ARCHBISHOP, HE ASCERTAINED THAT AN IDENTITY OF VIEWS EXISTED ON HOW TO HANDLE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BASED ON THE COMMON LINE FORMULATED BY BOTH ATHENS AND NICOSIA EARLIER.

4. IN HIS REMARKS TO NEWSMEN, CLERIDES STATED HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY IMMEDIATE RESULTS FROM THE VIENNA TALKS BUT THAT THEY WOULD BE USEFUL FROM VIEWPOINT OF EXCHANGING VIEWS AND ASCERTAINING WHETHER THERE BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

5. IN ITS COVERAGE OF MAKARIOS STOPOVER TO VIMA TOOK FAIRLY BLEAK LINE ON UPCOMING VIENNA TALKS. HEADLINES INTRODUCING STORY READ "TURKISH SIDE APPEARS TO BE INFLEXIBLE; VIENNA TALKS BEGIN WITHOUT OPTIMISM." STORY TOOK NOTE OF ACT THAT PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE FROM CYPRUS TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH MADE STATEMENT INDICATING TURKISH SIDE WOULD MAKE NO CONCESSIONS BEYOND PRESENT DE FACTO SITUATION. REPORT ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IN COURSE ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN'S VISIT, TURKISH SIDE DEMONSTRATED "GREAT RESERVE" ON QUESTION OF "CONCESSIONS WHICH THEY MIGHT BE DISPOSED TO MAKE." KUBISCH

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